SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW
CURRICULAR PROGRAM IN ADVOCACY & LITIGATION

A. Program Description

This curricular program allows students to receive recognition for taking a concentration in courses relating to the study and practice of the law surrounding litigation-based advocacy. The curricular program also allows students to cultivate a working knowledge of the separate practices of litigation-focused advocacy that occur throughout the timeline of a case. The program is designed to prepare students for professional legal roles such as mediators, negotiators, trial attorneys, and appellate advocates.

B. Overview of Course and Capstone Requirements

To complete the program, all students must take Evidence, Trial Practice, Appellate Advocacy, and Alternative Dispute Resolution and must take a minimum of 6 credits from the list of elective courses provided herein or otherwise approved by the Program Director. At least one of the elective courses must be cross-listed in another graduate division at Syracuse University.

The written work product requirement for this curricular program is satisfied by satisfactory completion of Appellate Advocacy, a required course, as this course also satisfies the upper level writing requirement. Likewise, the experiential learning requirement for this curricular program is satisfied by satisfactory completion the program’s required courses.

C. Minimum Grade Requirement

Students Completing the Program Prior to the 2019-2020 Academic Year

Students completing the curricular program prior to the 2019-2020 Academic Year must receive a grade of no less than a B for all required and elective courses. For such students, no course counted toward the program requirements may be taken on a pass/fail basis, with the exception that the capstone requirement may consist of an externship taken on a pass/fail basis.

Students Completing the Program after the Commencement of the 2019-2020 Academic Year

Students completing the curricular program after the Commencement of the 2019-2020 Academic year must receive a grade of no less than a B+ for all courses counted toward the program’s requirements in which letter grades are provided. If a class is counted toward the curricular program requirement and that class is graded entirely on a fail/pass/pass with honors/pass with high honors basis, students must receive a minimum grade of a pass with honors in order for that class to be counted toward the required credit hours for completion of the curricular program and/or the capstone requirement.

D. Course Listings

1. Required courses: All students in the curricular program must take the following College of Law courses:

   Evidence
Trial Practice

Appellate Advocacy

Alternative Dispute Resolution

2. **Elective College of Law Courses:** The following College of Law courses are approved as electives for this curricular program:

   Negotiation
   Legal Interviewing and Counseling
   Writing in Criminal Litigation
   Advanced Torts
   Advanced Trial Practice
   Advanced Litigation Skills
   Advanced Criminal Evidence
   The Law and Practice of Electronic Discovery
   Transactional Drafting
   Writing for Trial and Appellate Judges
   Any law school clinic
   Any law school externship approved by the Program Director.

   Elective Courses also include cross-listed courses identified below.

3. **Cross-Listed Course Requirement:** The following courses in other graduate divisions at Syracuse University are approved as electives for this curricular program.

   **CRS 514: Language & Meaning**
   Communication and Rhetorical Studies

   **CRS 531: Advances in Interpersonal Communication**
   Communication and Rhetorical Studies

   **CRS 538: Advances in Organizational Speech Communication**
   Communication and Rhetorical Studies

   **CRS 545: Issues in Argumentation**
   Communication and Rhetorical Studies
PHI 565: Philosophy of Language  
*College of Arts and Science*

ANT 624: Negotiation: Theory and Practice  
*Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs*

ANT 675: Culture and Disputing  
*Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs*

PAI 750: Managing Interpersonal Group and Systemic Conflict  
*Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs*

PSC: 712 Public Opinion and Communication  
*Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs*

COM: 755 Communications Theory  
*S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications*

ICC: 602 Introduction to Digital Communications  
*S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications*

MAG: 518 Critical Writing  
*S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications*

PRL 645: The Ethics of Advocacy  
*S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications*

MGT 758: Labor Arbitration and Dispute Resolution  
*Martin J. Whitman School of Management*

CRS 606: Issues and Methods in Critical Communications Theory  
*Communication and Rhetorical Studies*

CRS 825 Seminar in Persuasion  
*Communication and Rhetorical Studies*

MFT 641 Divorce Mediation  
*David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics*

SWK 778 Policy Practice and Advocacy  
*David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics*

4. **Capstone Requirement**: All students in the curricular program must take a course, or engage in an activity, that satisfies the program’s capstone requirement. The following courses and experiences satisfy that requirement:

1. Any law school clinic.
2. An externship approved by the Program Director based on the degree of advocacy related experience, i.e. interviewing, counseling, negotiation, trial, appellate advocacy, or written legal advocacy.

3. Membership on any inter-collegiate trial, appellate or alternative dispute resolution team at the College of Law.

4. Reaching the semi-finals of the Bond, Schoeneck & King Alternative Dispute Resolution, Lionel O. Grossman Trial Competition, or the Mackenzie Hughes LLP Edmund H. Lewis Appellate Advocacy Competition.

E. Other Provisions

1. Program Director

The director of the Curricular Program in Advocacy & Litigation is Associate Professor Todd A. Berger, Faculty Director of the Advocacy Programs.

2. Completing the Program

This program is available to students in good standing at the College of Law. Students interested in pursuing the Advocacy Program should consult the list of required and elective courses and required writing, research, and experiential learning projects. Students must submit an application to the Program Director in the fall of the student’s second year. In addition, students are directed to refer to the provisions of the applicable Academic Handbook.